

44 FABLES *in* VERSE.

Allur'd by mercenary views,  
Met at the general rendezvous.  
With scorn the chiefs the troops survey'd,  
And fain would have disdain'd such aid:  
‘ No, says the Lion, you mistake,  
‘ The Asses, trumpeters we'll make;  
‘ As couriers be the Hares employ'd,  
‘ No brute shall hold his station void.

M O R A L.

Wife nature nothing made in vain,  
However vile, however plain,  
But what, if rightly understood,  
May some way tend to public good.

R E F L E C T I O N.

To all her works wife providence  
Does various parts and minds dispense;  
The peasant poor, that hedge and ditch,  
Are some ways useful to the rich;  
The opulent impart their store,  
And comfortably feed the poor.  
Let not the great the least disdain,  
All, all are links of nature's chain;  
All have their own designs in view,  
And all the will divine pursue.

FABLES *in* VERSE. 45



A STAG *Drinking.*

A Wanton Stag, upon the brink  
Of a clear stream, about to drink,  
Survey'd with pride his branching head,  
Then view'd his spindle shanks, and said,  
Were these proportion'd to my size,  
I'd all my enemies despise—  
When lo! the hounds in ample cry  
Proclaim the dogs and danger nigh;

He